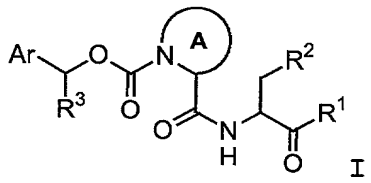
Abstract

This invention provides caspase inhibitors having the formula:



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wherein Ring A is an optionally substituted piperidine, tetrahydroquinoline or tetrahydroisoquinoline ring; R^1 is hydrogen, CHN_2, R, or $-CH_2Y$; R is an optionally substituted group selected from an aliphatic group, an aryl group, an aralkyl group, a heterocyclic group, or an heterocyclylalkyl group; Y is an electronegative leaving group; R^2 is CO_2H, CH_2CO_2H, or esters, amides or isosteres thereof; Ar is an optionally substituted aryl group; and R^3 is hydrogen, an optionally substituted C_{1-6} alkyl, F_2, CN, aryl or R^3 is attached to Ar to form an unsaturated or partially saturated five or six membered fused ring having 0-2 heteroatoms. The compounds are useful for treating caspase-mediated diseases in mammals.